

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/766,340	ITOH ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Shane M. Thomas	2186	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 10/31/2006.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-12, 15, 16 and 19-22 (renumbered 1-15).
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 4-12,15,16,19,20, and 22 (renumbered 1-15), are allowable over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claim 4, the amendment has overcome the previous § 102(e) rejections of Raves et al. as Raves, nor the prior art of record, does not specifically teach, either alone or in combination, a first partition operating in a user environment and a second partition storing write-protected applications where a write-protected specific application stored in the second partition is copied to an unoccupied location within the same partition when that application is executed. Raves only teaches copying an application from one partition that requires write protection 131 to a different partition 132, not from the write protected partition 131 to another location within the same partition 131.

Claims 6 and 9 have been amended to incorporate subject matter found in independent claims 15 and 19 that have previously been deemed allowance over the prior art of record (Non-Final Office action filed 6/27/2006). As such, claims 6,9, and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the prior art of record for the same reasons supplied above with regard to the Raves reference.

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gould et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,655) teaches storing a write protected program (i.e. an operating system) within a virtual partition of an existing logical partition of a hard drive but does not teach that the same operating system is copied to that virtual partition.

Teshima (U.S. Patent No. 6,892,255) teaches moving an original OS from one area of a memory 303 to another 305 (refer to figures 3A - 3G) but does not specifically teach if that memory or program is write-protected, whether the system of Teshima uses a validation code to validate the original OS before copying the OS, or “unlocking” the second area 205 when the original OS is considered a “validated” program.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shane M. Thomas whose telephone number is (571) 272-4188. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt M. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Shane M. Thomas



MATTHEW KIM
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